Loughborough

Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year ending 31st December,

1915.

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Loughborough Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending 31st December, 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1915.

Area in Statute Acres, 20,344. Population, 4,579. No. of Inhabited Houses, 1103. Average of persons per house, 4.15.	At Census, 1911.

Registrar General's Estimate 1915, 4,212.

The physical features and general character of the district are an undulating rural district, high on the eastern portion, namely, the Parishes of Burton-on-the-Wolds and Wymeswold, the lands of which are mainly used for cattle and grazing of sheep. Lower down, and nearer the Borough of Loughborough, come the Parishes of Prestwold, Cotes and Hoton, consisting of rich, fertile land, a considerable portion of which is cultivated, and the same may be said of the Parishes of Woodthorpe, Nanpanton, Thorpe Acre and Dishley. Garendon consists mostly of the demesne of that name. The Parishes of Hathern, Long Whatton, and Belton consist largely of grazing land. The condition of the inhabitants of the district is fairly prosperous. The chief occupation of the inhabitants is agriculture. There are no occupations having a prejudicial influence on the public health. There are two factory workshops at Long Whatton, and one at Hathern, both hosiery, and employing mostly women.

Water Supply.

The village of Nanpanton, and Prestwold Hall, as well as Burleigh Hall, have the public supply of water from the Borough of Loughborough. The supply is uniformly of good quality. In other parts of the district the water supply is derived from wells, and as well water is constantly liable to change from pollution from the surface of adjoining grounds, movements of subsoil water, etc., this matter receives a considerable amount of attention from the Inspector of Nuisances.

Twelve samples of drinking were submitted to me for analysis during the year, four were condemned, and the wells were cleansed and repaired.

Milk Supply.

The milk supply is derived from the farms of the district. There is no milk imported, but considerable quantities are sent out of the district to London and elsewhere. The dairies are subject to regular inspection under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops Order, and a Veterinary Inspector is appointed to examine milch cows in the district. Every precaution is used for the detection of tuberculous milch cows.

Other Foods.

There are no unsound foods prepared or exposed for sale in the district. A general supervision is exercised over slaughter-houses. The slaughter-houses are all in a cleanly condition.

Sewerage and Drainage.

At Wymeswold there is a system of drainage put down about 30 years ago. There is a reservoir for flushing at the higher end of the village, and a sewage farm with settling tanks for extracting sludge at the lower end. This, however, has been improved upon, and a satisfactory effluent is now obtained.

At Burton-on-the-Wolds, the sewage is passed over an osier plot, which has yielded a satisfactory effluent. Throughout the remainder of the district liquid house refuse finds its way in the ordinary manner through the house drain to the village sewer, and thence by lines of natural drainage (which in most cases are long dykes) to the nearest river or brook ; these dykes are periodically cleansed, by order of the Council.

Sewerage, Sewage Disposal, etc., Hathern.

The Rural District Council have under consideration the disposal of sewage as recommended in previous reports.

Excrement Disposal.

The system in vogue for this purpose is the old-fashioned midden and privy arrangements, the defects of which have been pointed out in previous reports.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

This is done by the occupiers—there are no public scavengers.

Methods of Dealing with Infectious Diseases.

The Compulsory Notifications Act is in force. Enteric Fever and Diphtheria cases are isolated at the Loughborough Isolation Hospital. The County Council provide Isolation Hospitals for small-pox. All other infectious diseases are isolated at their homes. Disinfection is carried out with sulphur-di-oxide and formaldehyde spray.

Schools.

The schools of the district are administered by the County Council, and the medical inspection of school children is also arranged by them. The general sanitary condition of the schools is good. The following schools have been closed for periods during the year: Hathern, Scarlet Fever and Sore Throat; Hathern, Chicken Pox and Whooping Cough; Thorpe Acre, Influenza.

Method of Control of Tuberculosis.

During the year four cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified.

In common with other Councils throughout the County, this Council has arranged to go in with the County scheme for Sanatoria and Hospital treatment. The County Council has appointed health visitors, who visit the patients and inspect their houses and surroundings, and give advice as to precautions and isolation necessary to be taken in cases of this disease. The rooms occupied by the patients are periodically disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector with formalin; or when a death occurs, or a removal takes place, the rooms are fumigated, etc.

Nuisances.

Thirty-six nuisances were abated during the year.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

The number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Sect. 17 of the Act of 1909 is 45. The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation is 0, the number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders is 0. The number of dwelling houses, the defects of which were considered without the making of Closing Orders were nine. Number of houses in which defects were rectified was nine. The number of houses demolished as a result of Closing Orders issued in the previous year was four, and eleven were put into a habitable condition.

The general character of defects found were defective roofs, damp walls, defective rain-water conductors, dirty, dilapidated, insufficiently lighted and ventilated, defective paving and defective drains, insanitary privies and ash-pits.

Births.

The total number of births registered was 93, being 10 more than last year, and is an annual birth-rate of 22.0 per thousand of the population.

Mortality.

The total number of deaths registered is 46, two of which did not belong to the district, to which must be added 5 which occurred outside, but belonging to the district. In this manner we arrive at the correct mortality of 49, which is the same as last year, and is an annual death-rate of 11.6 per thousand of the estimated population.

Infant Mortality.

The total number of deaths under 1 year is 7, which is 1 more than last year.

Infectious Diseases Notified.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases was 23, which was 8 more than last year.

The cases were as follows :—

15 Scalet Fever. 14 at Hathern and 1 at Wymeswold.

4 Phthisis Pulmonary. 3 at Hathern and 1 at Belton.

1 Other Forms of Tuberculosis. 1 at Hathern.

2 Enteric Fever. 1 at Hathern and 1 at Long Whatton.

1 Ophthalmia Neonatorum. 1 at Burton Bandalls.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Of these there are 69 in the district, an increase of 5 on last year; all are registered; 103 inspections were made, detecting 47 cases where cleansing and limewashing were required, and 2 in which structural alterations were necessary. The requirements were carried out in every case.

Factory and Workshops.

In 14 cases want of cleanliness was detected and remedied.

From the report of the Inspector of Nuisances hereto appended, will be seen details of the amount of sanitary work accomplished during the year.

Appended also are tabulated statistics as to population, births and mortality for present and previous five years, also of infectious diseases notified, and of deaths classified according to diseases, ages, and localities, also of deaths under one year; copies of which, as well as of this report, when printed, will be sent to the Leicestershire County Council, the Home Office, and the Local Government Board.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

N. B. M. BLACKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Mortality from adjoined causes:—Whooping Cough 1, Meningitis 1, Cancer 4, Organic Heart Disease 6, Bronchitis 4, Pneumonia 7, Brights Desease 1, Congenital Debility and Premature Birth 2, Violent Deaths 2, all other causes 21; total 49.

25 of these were of persons 65 years of age and upwards.

Births and Deaths.

	POPULATION.		BIRTHS.		DEATHS.
Hathern ...	1209	Boys	12	Girls 9	17
Long Whatton...	571	,,	3	,, 6	4
Belton ...	607	,,	4	,, 7	4
Wymeswold ...	777	,,	11	,, 6	10
Hoton ...	251	,,	3	,, 2	2
Burton-on-Wolds	293	,,	5	,, 5	3
Prestwold ... 84	111	,,	0	,, 1	0
Cotes ... 57		,,	0	,, 1	1
Charley ...	138	,,	1	,, 1	0
Nanpanton ...	316	,,	5	,, 1	7
Thorpe Acre...	174	,,	2	,, 3	1
Dishley ...		,,	0	,, 0	0
Garendon ...	46	,,	1	,, 0	0
Woodthorpe ...	56	,,	0	,, 1	0
		,,	50	,, 43	
Total	4579	Total 93.			Total 49

To the Chairman and Members of the Loughborough Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,—

The following is my report of nuisances dealt with under the Public Health, Housing Inspection, Factory and Workshop Acts, Dairies and Cowsheds Regulations during the year ending December 31st, 1915 :—

Premises, Houses, &c., inspected	741
Nuisances abated	36
Pools, Ditches, &c., inspected	15
Nuisances abated	5
Privies, Cesspools, &c., inspected	472
Nuisances abated	52
New Provided	7
Converted to Pails	3
Drains, Drain Traps, &c., inspected	741
Nuisances abated	32
Slaughter Houses in the district	5
Number of Inspections	14
Houses (or part) Fumigated or Sprayed after infectious diseases	26
Schools Fumigated	2
Samples of Water taken for analysis	12
Condemned as unfit for drinking purposes ...	4
Wells Cleansed and Repaired	4
Factories and Workshops in the district ...	139
Bakehouses	7
Nuisances abated	16
Number of Cowkeepers	190
Dairymen and Milksellers registered	69

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

Number of Dwellings inspected	45
Number in which defects were found	9
Number of Closing Orders issued	0
Number of Houses which were closed as unfit for human habitation in previous years:	
Demolished in Wymeswold	4
Number of houses which after the making of closing orders were put into a habitable condition and orders determined	11

Factories and Workshops have been periodically inspected and 14 notices served to cleanse and limewash, and home work has been stopped in 4 cases because of infectious diseases.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

I have found it necessary to issue 47 notices to cleanse and limewash, which have been complied with, and 2 notices in which structural alterations have been made or new drains provided.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours Respectfully,

H. J. MORGAN,

Sanitary Inspector.

Derby Road,
Loughborough,
4th April, 1916.